



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

MAR 24 2000

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

8504 '00 MAR 28 A9:23

The Honorable Louise M. Slaughter
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3228

Dear Ms. Slaughter:

Thank you for your letter of December 2, 1999, addressed to Jane E. Henney, M.D., Commissioner of Food and Drugs, on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Dean Harper of Rochester, New York, concerning the labeling of added sugar in foods.

A petition (Docket No. 99P-2630) recently submitted by the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) calls for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to establish a Daily Reference Value for "added sugars" in foods and require that the Nutrition Facts panel include the amount and percent Daily Value of added sugars in a serving. In addition, CSPI requested that FDA change related labeling regulations for nutrient content and health claims.

FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) is reviewing the petition. As part of this review, CFSAN believes that it is appropriate to determine the extent of information available concerning the impact of ingestion of added sugars on the diet and public health. To this end, FDA will be publishing a notice of availability concerning the petition and requesting the submission of information relative to added sugars in the diet.

We appreciate your comments and will send a copy of your letter to Dockets Management Branch to become part of the official record for this citizen petition.


99P-2630

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We trust this information responds to your concerns. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact us again.

Sincerely,


Melinda K. Plaisier
Associate Commissioner
for Legislation

cc: Dockets Management Branch
(Docket #99P-2630)

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
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December 2, 1999

The Honorable Jane Henney, M.D.
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Room 1471
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Dr. Henney,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from my constituent, Mr. Dean Harper, of Rochester, New York. Mr. Harper is concerned about the lack of information about added sugar on nutrition labels. He believes these labels would be more useful if they included information about the amount and percent of added sugar.

I would appreciate it if you would apprise me of the FDA's views on this matter. Thank you for your attention to my request.

Sincerely,

Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress

LMS:hr

No. 99 - 7542

October 30, 1999

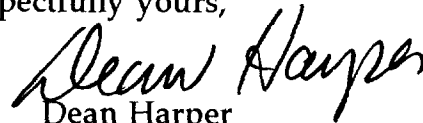
Congresswoman Louise Slaughter
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

NOV 09 1999

Dear Congresswoman Slaughter,

As you probably know, the nutrition facts that are printed on almost all food that we buy is quite helpful. A report today about, what some experts claim is an epidemic, obesity reminds me again of one gap in these nutrition listings on food, and that is information about the amount and percent of added sugar. The listing indicates the total amount of sugar, but doesn't distinguish that which naturally occurs from that which is added. Where do things stand on requiring this breakdown. Is the FDA working on this? Will it take legislation?

Respectfully yours,



Dean Harper
296 Troy Road
Rochester, NY 14618